by them on developing the equipment for defence requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this step is likely to improve the development of new defence equipment; and

(d) whether the private sector had accepted these conditions?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) There is no specific scheme for reimbursing to the industries the cost incurred on developing equipment for defence requirments. Under the existing procedure, the price settled with the industry for supply of an equipment is expected to take care of the developmental cost.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

High mortality rate among women in the country

*211. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mortality rate among women in the country is high;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the factors responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to bring down the mortality rate among women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per the latest estimate of SRS (Sample Registration system) of RGI the number of female deaths per thousand female population at the National level for the year 1986 is 11.2. The corresponding death rate among males for the year 1986 is 11.0.

(b) Pregnancy and child birth is associated with grave risks which may endanger the life of a woman.

(c) During pregnancy and child birth women are provided ante-natal, intra-natal and post-natal care, prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia, immunisation with tetanus toxid, MTP (Medical Termination of Pregnancy) facilities under Family Welfare Programme and supplementary nutrition under ICDS schemes.

Use of chloroform in pharmaceutical preparations

*212. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chloroform is being used in pharmaceutical preparations in our country, especially in the expectorants;

(b) whether it is also a fact that chloroform is banned in many countries as it was cancer-causing and also led to hepatic failure; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to ban the use of chloroform in pharmaceutical preparations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have initiated steps to ban the use of Chloroform in pharmaceutical preparations.

Demands of faculty members of the AIIMS, New Delhi

*213. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the faculty members of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi have recently sought the Prime Minister's intervention on their long-standing demands; if so, the details of their demands; and

(b) what is Government's reaction thereto?